**Amount Paid to "SAHMAT" and other Cultural Organisations**

2568. SHRI K.R MALKANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been given to 'SAHMAT' a cultural organisation, Naya Theatre, the Sangeet Natak Akademi and Zonal Cultural Centres by his Ministry, as grant-in-aid or subsidy, or project-based grant or performance fee; and

(b) the year-wise and head-wise details for the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Steps to promote agriculture in tribal areas**

2569. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken to promote agriculture in the tribal areas, particularly the scheduled areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in that regard during 1996-97 in the tribal areas of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Economic betterment is an important consideration in the formulation of agricultural development programmes.

Specific schemes implemented by Government which help people from the tribal areas include:—

1. Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation areas in North Eastern Region.

2. Assistance to Co-operatives for Weaker Sections.

Transport subsidy on Seeds for North-Eastem States and Sikkim.

Special Scheme for STs/SCs for share capital contribution and managerial assistance for credit co-operative societies.

Measures have also been taken to ensure that specific benefits flow to SC ST farmers and other weaker sections under other production oriented programmes implemented by the Government. In the case of area development programme, efforts are made to identify those areas for development which have a predominent proportion of SC/ST population.

A list of important schemes, under which benefits flow to the SC/ST population together with total expenditure during 1992—96 is annexed as statement *(See* below). In addition, extension services are provided for SC/ST fanners.

The schemes benefit the farmers both directly and indirectly. Direct schemes include crop oriented schemes, cooperatives for weaker sections, subsidy on transportations of seeds, promotion of fertilizers etc. Indirect benefits accrue from schemes for development of infrastructure to tribal areas.

Allocation of funds out of Central assistance is made by the States themselves. The states have been advised to provide atleast 22.5% funds to SC/ST population in respect of most schemes.

**Statement**

*Annexure List of Important Schemes for Assistance to Tribals*

| SI. No. | Scheme | Total Expenditure Releases from 1992—96 (Rs. lakhs) |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in NE Region. | ' 2924 |
| 2. | Assistance to Co-operatives for Weaker Sections | 537* |
| 3. | Assistance to Co-operatives for Women | 508 |
| 4. | Transport subsidy on Seeds for NE States and Sikkim | 127 |
| 5. | Special scheme for SCs/STs for shares capital contribution and managerial assistance for credit Co-operative societies. | 305 |
| 6. | Oilseeds Production Programme | 33533 |
| 7. | National Pulses Development Programme. | 10018 |
| 8. | Integrated Cereals Development Programme—Rice. | D032 |
| - | megrared Cereals Development Programme—Wheat. | 11705. |
| 10. | Intensive Cotton Development Programme. | 3750 |
| 11. | Special Jute Development Programme. | 671 |
| 12. | Integrated Cereals Development Programme—Coarse Cereals | 5240 |
| 13. | National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas. | 62659 |
| 14. | Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects. | 22077' |
| 15. | Reclamation of Alkali Soils. | •3017 |
| | Soil Conservation in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers. | 10622 |
| 17. | Integrated development of Spices. | 7871 |
| 18. | Integrated Development of Tropical Arid and Temperate Zone Fruits. | 4853 |
| 19. | Use pf Plastics in Agriculture. | 13967 |
| 20. | Development of Fertilizer use in Low Consumption rainfed areas. | 379 |
| | Total: | 207795 |

**उर्वरक परियोजना के संबंध में भारत-ओमान समझौता**

2570. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोलाः** क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वर्ष 1993 से अक्तूबर 1995 की अवधि के बीच कृषको में भारत ओमान परियोजना के संबंध में 83 विदेशी दौरे किए गए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या समझौता कर लिया गया है एवं यह किस चरण में है;

(ग) भारत ओमान समझौते के अन्तर्गत इंगलैण्ड, जर्मनी और इटली के दौरे किन प्रयोजनों से किए गए और तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;